



# *Virginia State University*

## Laboratory School Modeling and Design



*W. Weldon Hill, Provost*

*27 October*

## Key Foci

*Economic Development and Educational Innovation*



## Key Measures

*Student retention in the College Partnership Laboratory Schools and the number of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics student teachers participating in Laboratory School activities.*

# *Purpose*



**Improve the capabilities of local middle schools to prepare students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) including *knowledge- and technology- intensive (KTI)* logistics and sustainment services which are key sectors of our local economy.**



# ***Economic Impact***



- **The Bureau of Labor and Statistics confirms the NSF findings and predicts the demand for STEM professions to grow 70% greater than other occupations.**
- **Coupled with a consistently declining graduation rate of teachers in the STEM fields, this creates a high urgency need in the cities of Petersburg and Hopewell. These realities are reflected in the employment statistics for the *Crater Planning District* that coordinates economic development activities for the two cities.**

# ***Modeling Assumptions***



- **Collaboration with school partners**
- **Facilities and resources commensurate with optimal learning environments and expectations**
- **Proximity to the VSU campus**
- **Controlled clinical Experiences**



# *Design Concepts*



- VSU's laboratory school project is aimed at the middle school years as this period represents the time whereby students develop a firm sense of self, establish and maintain a positive support network.
- The school will draw connections to social cognitive career theory that represents a comprehensive conceptual framework for understanding vocational interest formation, career choice, and academic/ career performance.
- Convey to parents a message that the positive learning experiences that their children encounter will influence their beliefs about themselves and expectations for success in related career activities in the future.

# ***Collaborative Partners***



## **Hopewell Public Schools**

*Dr. Winston Odom, Superintendent*

## **Petersburg Public Schools**

*Dr. Alvera Parrish, Superintendent*







# *Questions*

10/29/2010

*School of Liberal Arts and Education*

